

Baiocchi 3-4-42-11

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application

Applicant(s): F.A. Baiocchi et al.
Case: 3-4-42-11
Serial No.: 10/814,062
Filing Date: March 31, 2004
Group: 2891
Examiner: Chandra P. Chaudhari

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited on this date with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450.

Signature:

David L. Vulpis

Date: April 28, 2005

Title: Enhanced Substrate Contact for a Semiconductor Device

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith is the following document relating to the above-identified patent application:

(1) Response to Restriction Requirement.

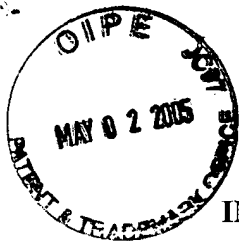
There is no additional fee due in conjunction with the response. In the event of any non-payment or improper payment of a required fee, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge or to credit **Ryan, Mason & Lewis, LLP Deposit Account No. 50-0762** as required to correct the error.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne L. Ellenbogen

Date: April 28, 2005

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Reg. No. 43,602
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Signature:

Lisa L. Vulpis

Date: April 28, 2005

Title: Enhanced Substrate Contact for a Semiconductor Device

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In an Office Action dated April 4, 2005, the Examiner required restriction of claims 1-26 to one of the following two groups of claims: (i) claims 1-19 (Group I); and (ii) claims 20-26 (Group II). Specifically, the Examiner contends that the inventions set forth in Groups I and II are distinct in that "the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process such as using a semiconductor substrate of a second conductivity type and counterdoping to the first conductivity type" (Office Action; page 2, paragraph 2). Applicants respectfully disagree with this contention and respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the requirement for restriction for at least the reasons given below.

The designation of "first" and "second" conductivity types recited in the subject claims is arbitrary, and neither set of claims is limited to a particular conductivity type. Additionally, Applicants submit that the apparatus set forth in independent claims 20 and 23 and the method set forth in independent claim 1, as well as the respective claims depending therefrom, are of such similar character as to essentially eliminate the necessity for a separate search and/or classification.

Application Serial No. 10/675,633

Applicants assert that, in the interest of conservation of resources for the Patent Office as well as for Applicants, the claims of Group I and Group II should be considered together. Accordingly, withdrawal of the restriction requirement in the present application is respectfully solicited.

Notwithstanding the above traversal, Applicants hereby provisionally elect the claims of Group I, namely, claims 1-19, for prosecution on the merits.

It is believed that there is no fee due in conjunction with the present response. In the event of non-payment or improper payment of a required fee, the Commissioner is authorized to charge or to credit **Ryan, Mason & Lewis, LLP Deposit Account No. 50-0762** as required to correct the error.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wayne L. Ellenbogen", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Date: April 28, 2005

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